



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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January 7, 2004

Mr. William J. Taylor
U.S. Department of Energy, Fernald Area Office
P.O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, OH 45253-8705

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F-0925
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RE: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF PSP TO SAMPLE WASTE PIT 3

Dear Mr. Taylor:

This letter provides Ohio Environmental Protection Agency conditional approval of the Project-Specific Plan for Investigating the Subsurface Material from the Northwestern portion of Waste Pit 3. Our approval is conditional on the incorporation of the following comment:

Section 2.3 of the PSP discusses sample collection methods. The first sentence of the last paragraph on Page 2-6 states, "Additionally, if the sand and gravel of the Great Miami Aquifer is encountered prior to the 3.5 foot depth in a borehole, then adjacent borehole depths will be altered to a depth six inches *below* the depth from which the sand and gravel was encountered (e.g., encounter sand and gravel at 2.0 feet, then adjacent borehole depths would be 2.5 feet)." *Italics added.* The procedure as quoted would provide a conduit for contamination to enter the GMA. The sentence should be re-written so that the term 'below' is replaced with 'above'. The parenthetical example should also be modified so that the new sentence reads, "Additionally, if the sand and gravel of the Great Miami Aquifer is encountered prior to the 3.5 foot depth in a borehole, then adjacent borehole depths will be altered to a depth six inches *above* the depth from which the sand and gravel was encountered (e.g., encounter sand and gravel at 2.0 feet, then adjacent borehole

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depths would be 1.5 feet).

Should you have any questions, please contact Tom Ontko or me.

Sincerely,



For Thomas A. Schneider
Fernald Project Manager
Office of Federal Facilities Oversight

cc: Jim Saric, U.S. EPA
Terry Hagen, Fluor Fernald
Mark Shupe, GeoTrans, Inc.
Michelle Cullerton, Tetra Tech EM Inc.
Ruth Vandergrift, ODH